

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER
S. RES. 27

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN79-2, the nomination of Kristen M. Clarke, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, having been referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

(1) on the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed, 11 ayes to 11 noes.

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the RECORD pursuant to the resolution.

NOMINATION OF CHIQUITA
BROOKS-LASURE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, it is generally my policy to defer to a President and to allow them to choose their Cabinet, provided the nominees are qualified and will follow the law. Even though I may have disagreed with President Biden's nominees ideologically, I have voted for many of his nominees. This includes Ms. Andrea Palm for Deputy Secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services. Unlike many Senators who voted against virtually all of President Trump's nominees, it is my philosophy that a President should be able to select those whom he wants to serve in his administration, provided that they are qualified and meet the most basic of tests.

President Biden has nominated Ms. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to be Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS. I have met with the nominee and appreciate her commitment to our shared priorities, including lowering prescription drug costs in a bipartisan manner and maintaining essential medical services for rural Americans. I also remain committed to oversight of the executive branch, including CMS, to uphold our system of checks and balances. If Ms. Brooks-LaSure is confirmed, I look forward to working with her on these shared priorities and others as a senior member of the Committee on Finance. Ms. Brooks-LaSure has decades of health care experience, including at the Office of Management and Budget, on the House of Representative's Ways and Means Committee, at the Department of Health and Human Services, and in the private sector. Ms. Brooks-LaSure is qualified to serve as Administrator of CMS, and I personally do not have concerns about her nomination despite ideological differences.

However, I opposed Ms. Brooks-LaSure's confirmation out of the Com-

mittee on Finance at the request of Senator JOHN CORNYN of Texas. On April 22, 2021, the Finance Committee voted 14 to 14 on Ms. Brooks-LaSure's nomination, with all Republican committee members opposing moving the nomination forward. This effort was to give Senator CORNYN time to work with the Biden administration to address concerns about the CMS recent revoking of their section 1115 Medicaid waiver. I have opposed advancing other nominees of both parties in the past as part of my oversight responsibilities since it is one of the few tools we have in the Senate to extract answers from the executive branch. The Biden administration took an unprecedented action to revoke without consultation the State's Medicaid waiver. By supporting Senator CORNYN's effort, I was hopeful the Biden administration could adequately address Texas's concerns. To date, there has not been progress made; therefore, I again opposed advancing this nomination, not with an intent to permanently block her confirmation, but as an exercise of Congress's check on the executive branch in hopes that it will engage with Senator CORNYN in good faith to resolve this matter that is so important to his home State.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, it is a solemn honor to recognize National Police Week. Each year, we dedicate this week to express our admiration and gratitude to all of the law enforcement officers working to keep us safe. We also take this time to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty over the past year.

Law enforcement officers face many challenges in their mission to protect and serve. I greatly admire members of the law enforcement community who remain steadfast amidst the dangers of their noble profession.

To all the law enforcement officers across the State of Mississippi, I want to say to you that I am in Washington, DC, as your Senator to support you and to work to ensure you have what you need to do your job. You are truly our hometown heroes. You are the thin blue line keeping our families and our communities safe.

The loss of any officer deeply affects entire communities beyond their own department, and the ramifications for their family and friends are heart-breaking.

This Police Week, we honor and mourn three heroes from Mississippi, officers who died in the line of duty last year.

Monroe County Deputy Sheriff Dylan Scott Pickle, 24, died on July 26, 2020, while on duty after a vehicle struck him during a safety checkpoint operation. Dylan, a decorated veteran awarded three medals for his heroism in Syria, knew at an early age that he wanted to serve his community and his country. An Amory native and an

Itawamba Community College graduate, Deputy Pickle's life of service was cut short soon after earning a promotion within the sheriff's department. He leaves behind his mother, a sister, a brother, and stepsister.

Simpson County Sheriff Deputy James Harold Blair lost his life on July 12, 2020, after a subject he was transporting fatally wounded him. This 77-year-old grandfather served in law enforcement honorably for more than 50 years in Simpson County, Lincoln County, Pike County, and Louisiana. He even worked as a crossing guard for his grandchildren's school. Deputy Sheriff Blair leaves behind a large grieving family, including his wife, 3 sons, 4 daughters, 17 grandchildren, and 48 great-grandchildren.

Correctional Officer Marshall Lee "Bem" London, Jr., 66, of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, passed away May 18, 2020. A 16-year veteran of the sheriff's office, Bem is among the tragic number of law enforcement officers who succumbed to COVID-19 last year while serving the public. A dedicated family man, Deputy London is survived by his children and grandchildren.

As a lasting tribute, the names of these three brave officers will be added this year to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC.

In addition to these recent losses, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial will now also bear the names of three DeSoto County sheriff's deputies who died in the line of duty 123 years ago. Deputy Sheriffs Henry R. Campbell, William C. Cooper, and Carter I. Jones lost their lives on May 18, 1898, while attempting to arrest a father and son wanted for four murders. Even after more than a century, we still remember loss and honor their service.

Then and now, our law enforcement offices face tremendous dangers as they work to ensure the public safety and enforce the law. Today, all officers must deal with unprecedented challenges, pressures, and scrutiny. Supporting our law enforcement ought to be uncontroversial. Unfortunately, that is not always the case.

As we mark National Police Week, let us embrace the memories of these fallen officers as a cause to redouble our commitment to supporting law enforcement. I assure you that I will continue to be an advocate for law enforcement professionals and do my very best to honor the legacy of all those lost in the line of duty.

To the families of Deputy Pickle, Deputy Blair, and Officer London, I know you have faced enormous loss. I want you to know that you are continually in our prayers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE NEW DOCTORS
OF THE ARKANSAS COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise to honor the inaugural graduates of the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine, ARCOM, as they prepare to receive their hoods and diplomas on Saturday, May 15, 2021.

After 4 years, this class of 145 doctors will move on to residencies throughout the region and the Nation, but first, they will celebrate their unique role as leaders and standard-setters within what has already become a vitally important and game-changing institution in western Arkansas.

ARCOM welcomed its first class of medical students in 2017. Four years later, the school celebrated its first Match Day with 95 percent of students placed into residency programs. Of those moving onto residencies, 7 percent will work in primary care and almost two-thirds received placements in Arkansas and surrounding States. Studies show us that a majority of doctors stay and practice in the region they are educated, so I was also pleased to see that more than 50 percent of ARCOM's first class of graduates matched in States that are considered in the bottom 10 percent for access to medical care. This is where they are needed and speaks to the mission and importance of ARCOM, not only to Arkansas but our entire region.

As part of the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education, ACHE, ARCOM is transforming healthcare education and helping prepare future doctors to practice in medically underserved regions. It is inspiring to think about the efforts it took to make this day possible. The need for more medical professionals in Arkansas is great, and the work put in by the students community leaders, generous donors, and true visionaries who saw the need should be applauded today.

In addition to this inaugural class of osteopathic physicians, ACHE is celebrating its second commencement for graduates receiving a master of science in biomedicine. The campus is now also home to the School of Physical Therapy, with its first class starting instruction in June 2021, and the School of Occupational Therapy, which expects to welcome students in January 2022.

I am grateful for the incredible work being done by administration, faculty, staff, and students. The campus is a cornerstone for new medical facilities, housing, and opportunities in western Arkansas and continues to draw new resources to the area. Its impact has been significant and stands to grow well into the future.

I am also proud of these graduates. They have prepared for their medical careers during a challenging time, with full understanding of the importance of their charge and the task ahead. As

they embark on their careers, I know they have seen and experienced more than they expected. They have chosen this path for a reason, and our State and Nation are stronger because of their commitment to serving others.

Congratulations to the 2021 class of ARCOM and to everyone who made this dream possible for them and for Arkansas.●

REMEMBERING JOHN MICHAEL
ELLIOTT

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the life and career of John Michael Elliott, who passed away suddenly on March 12, 2021. It is my honor to reflect on the legacy John built for his family and his community. For me and for my family, John M. Elliott was a faithful friend.

Community, heritage, and history were all important to John. Born in Girardville, Schuylkill County, PA, on July 8, 1941. John later graduated magna cum laude from St. Vincent College, where he played varsity baseball. He received the American Jurisprudence Award from the Georgetown University Law Center and launched a successful 55-year legal career. John Elliott never forgot his Schuylkill County roots or Irish-American heritage.

John was a skilled lawyer who became chairman and CEO of Elliott Greenleaf, the law firm he founded in 1990. To John, law was a profession as well as a means by which he could advance his greater purpose in life: to be of service to others. He was talented and tenacious. In 1979, he worked to right a past wrong and won a posthumous pardon for Irish immigrant and Schuylkill resident, Jack Kehoe. In 2002, he won an age-discrimination case that resulted in the largest single-plaintiff jury verdict in the history of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. John was generous with his legal talents and imparted his knowledge onto the next generation of lawyers as a lecturer for the American Law Institute, the American, Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Bar Associations, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute.

Outside of his law practice and lectures, John remained committed to service. He served as chairman of the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, as a commissioner of the Delaware River Port Authority and as a member of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board. He was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of State to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe's Conferences on the Human Dimension in Paris and on Democratic Institutions in Oslo and was a Presidential appointee to the White House Coal Advisory Commission. He was a steadfast supporter of St. Patrick's College in Maynooth, County Kildare, Ireland, for more than two decades. He

was recognized twice for his efforts in 1995 when Cardinal Cahal B. Daly of Ireland dedicated the Salamanca Archives at the college in his honor and in 2001 when Cardinal Desmond Connell conferred upon him the Gold Medal of St. Patrick.

John received many accolades during his lifetime. He was awarded an LL.D. by his alma mater, St. Vincent College, and The Legal Intelligencer's 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award. His greatest achievement and source of pride was his family. Those fortunate enough to receive John's oversized holiday card every year were treated to references to his children and their families and candid images of each one of his grandchildren. The passing of John M. Elliott is a terrible loss for his wife, Eileen; his brother Thomas and sister Margaret Mary; his children, Jack, Heather, Kirwan, Kyle, and Thomas; his 14 grandchildren; and the rest of his family and many friends as they mourn his loss. His death is also a loss for our Commonwealth. May he rest in peace.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:06 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 49. An act to designate the National Pulse Memorial located at 1912 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, 32806, and for other purposes.

H.R. 297. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the establishment of, and the potential land that could be included in, a unit of the National Forest System in the State of Hawaii, and for other purposes.

H.R. 433. An act to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

H.R. 478. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes.

H.R. 586. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational